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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

November 9, 2001

The Honorable Hector Barreto
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 Third Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Re: SBIR/STTR and Anti-terrorism

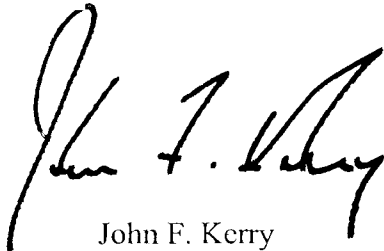
Dear Administrator Barreto:

As you know, the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs have been very successful in increasing the research and development priorities of Federal agencies and could play an important role in combating terrorism. In these trying times, it is important that we use every possible means to stop terrorism and we believe small business can be valuable in this mission. Small business has proven to develop world-class innovations faster and cheaper than their academic and larger-business counterparts.

To understand better small business' role in this mission, we ask SBA to survey participating SBIR and STTR agencies to find out the extent that these programs have developed technology which is being used today to combat terrorism, including technologies that combat chemical and biological warfare. Since anti-terrorism is a national priority, we also request for SBA to identify in the survey the ten most significant research projects that each agency has funded in the past relating to anti-terrorism. In addition, we request that the survey identify each agency's plans for the future use of the SBIR/STTR programs to combat terrorism. The survey should also determine whether agencies and departments that are not required to use these successful programs (such as the Postal Service, Central Intelligence Agency, and the Department of Justice) are using them to meet their new priorities in the anti-terrorism area.

In addition, we believe that SBA can and should play a vital role to ensure that the SBIR and STTR programs are fully utilized in these efforts. As such, SBA should encourage the participating agencies to conduct a combined special SBIR/STTR solicitation on topics related to anti-terrorism. In addition, we wish to know what SBA is doing to encourage the agencies to exceed the 2.5% and 0.15% SBIR and STTR programs minimum levels to combat terrorism.

Please provide the requested information to us within 60 calendar days. If you have any questions, please have your staff to contact Kevin Wheeler or Greg Dean of the Committee staff at 224-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Kerry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being particularly prominent.

John F. Kerry
Chairman

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Bond". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the last name "Bond" being the most legible part.

Christopher S. Bond
Ranking Member